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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20857-0003

RE: Docket No. 98N-1265

Dear Sir/Madam:

It has come to my attention that a Memorandum of Understanding published by the FDA on Jan. 21, 1999, severely restricts the practice of pharmacy compounding and the interstate distribution of compounded drugs. As a patient whose health strongly depends on the availability of these drugs, I urge that this MOU be amended in accordance with the original intent of Congress.

I am a person with extensive and debilitating allergies to many ingredients in standard commercially available drugs, as well as severe sensitivities to many synthetic products. For instance, when I began menopause, crippling reactions to Premarin and Provera made it essential that I be able to have access to natural compounded sources of estrogen and progesterone in order to maintain my ability to be a productive and functioning member of society.

I am also concerned that this MOU will prevent pharmacists from making use of their extensive education to provide information to patients and doctors about medication alternatives. In addition, since there is no restriction on the inter-state distribution of other drugs, it would be inequitable to place this burden on compounding pharmacies. Citizens of this country should be able to have access to appropriate medications no matter where in the country they happen to live.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Your help in amending the MOU, as well as the Compounding Section 503A of the Modernization Act, will make a significant contribution to the health and well being of all citizens.

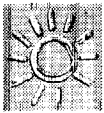
Sincerely,

*Roberta Barry*

Roberta Barry

*cc: Senator Jan Schakowsky  
Rep. Dick Durbin  
98N-1265*

*C3610*



Roberta S. Barry  
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